

Listing of Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A wheel assembly comprising:

a rim for a tire;

a hub comprising a central portion and a connecting portion radiating from the central portion to the rim, wherein the central portion is provided with a plurality of lug holes through which lug studs pass when a rear side of the central portion is mounted against an axle hub of a motor vehicle; and

a functioning clock removably mounted to a front side of the connecting portion of the hub so as to conceal ~~the lug holes~~ lug nuts tightened down on the lug studs from view.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The wheel assembly according to claim 1 wherein the orientation of at least a face portion of the functioning clock does not appear to substantially change ~~as the~~ when the central portion of the hub of the wheel assembly is mounted against the axle hub of a motor vehicle that is in motion and the hub is rotated rotating.

Claim 3 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 2 wherein the functioning clock further comprises a bezel portion that frames the face portion, and a transparent or translucent crystal portion that contacts the bezel portion and covers and protects the face portion.

Claim 4 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 2 wherein the face portion of the functioning clock comprises an analog clock having an hour hand and a minute hand.

Claim 5 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 4 wherein the hour hand and minute hand are formed on the face portion by an electroluminescent display.

Claim 6 (canceled)

Claim 7 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 1 wherein the hub and rim are integrally formed of metal.

Claim 8 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 2 further comprising a light source for illuminating the face portion of the functioning clock and a power source for providing power to the light source.

Claim 9 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 8 further comprising a controller for switching power on and off from the power source to the light source.

Claims 10-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): The wheel assembly according to claim 9 further comprising a ~~second~~ receiver for receiving a transmitted time signal ~~transmitted~~, and wherein the controller adjusts the time displayed by the functioning clock to match the transmitted time signal received by the receiver.

Claim 14 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 1 wherein the connecting portion of the hub comprises a bracket portion for removably mounting the functional clock to the hub.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The wheel assembly according to claim 4 14 wherein the bracket portion is adapted to receive any one of a plurality of

interchangeable functional clocks that have a different appearance.

Claim 16 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 3 wherein the face portion of the functioning clock is encased within a substantially watertight sealed compartment defined by the bezel portion, the crystal portion and a back case portion connected to the bezel portion.

Claim 17 (currently amended): ~~The wheel assembly according to claim 16~~ A wheel assembly comprising:

a rim for a tire;

a hub comprising a central portion and a connecting portion radiating from the

central portion to the rim, wherein the central portion is provided with a

plurality of lug holes through which lug studs pass when a rear side of the

central portion is mounted against an axle hub of a motor vehicle; and

a functioning clock removably mounted to a front side of the connecting portion of

the hub so as to conceal lug nuts tightened down on the lug studs from

view;

wherein the orientation of at least a face portion of the functioning clock does not

appear to substantially change when the central portion of the hub of the wheel

assembly is mounted against the axle hub of a motor vehicle that is in motion and the

hub is rotating;

wherein the functioning clock further comprises a bezel portion that frames the face

portion, and a transparent or translucent crystal portion that contacts the bezel portion

and covers and protects the face portion;

wherein the face portion of the functioning clock is encased within a substantially

watertight sealed compartment defined by the bezel portion, the crystal portion and a

back case portion connected to the bezel portion; and

wherein the bezel portion is mounted to the connecting portion of the hub and the face

portion is provided with a plurality of roller bearings configured to contact an inner

annual bearing surface formed in the ~~bezel portion, the back case portion or between the bezel portion and the back case portion~~, and wherein the inner annular bearing surface thereby supports the face portion of the functioning clock.

Claim 18 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 17 wherein a bottom hemisphere of the face portion is heavier than a top hemisphere of the face portion, the difference in weight being sufficient to maintain the vertical orientation of the face portion notwithstanding rotation of the hub.

Claim 19 (original): The wheel assembly according to claim 1 wherein the connecting portion of the hub comprises a plurality of spokes that are spaced apart a predetermined distance such that when the connecting portion of the hub rotates at a substantially constant predetermined speed, an optical illusion is created whereby the plurality of spokes appear to a human observer to make about one clockwise revolution around the bezel portion of the functioning clock per minute.

Claim 20 (canceled).